

## Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 FRB-03 COME-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W

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P R 172928Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7629

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ECIN, PINT, TD, XL, MX, VE, CO, BR

SUBJ: RECOLONIALIZATION OF THE CARIBBEAN?

REF: MEXICO 3346

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS HAS ASSERTED THAT THE NEW-FOUND INTEREST OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES IN THE CARIBBEAN POSES THE DANGER OF A "RECOLONIALIZATION" OF THE CARIBBEAN AND THAT THE INVOLVEMENT OF THESE COUNTRIES IN CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS WILL BRING WITH IT ALL OF THE "TENSIONS, RIVALRIES, AND JEALOUSIES" OF LATIN AMERICA TO THE AREA. DR.

WILLIAMS MADE HIS CHARGES IN A SPEECH TO THE SAN FERNANDO CONSTITUENCY OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL MOVEMENT (PNM) ON

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APRIL 13.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER CITED THE RECENT ACTIVITIES OF VENEZUELA IN PARTICULAR AND ALSO THOSE OF COLOMBIA, MEXICO, AND BRAZIL AS EVIDENCE THAT THIS "RECOLONIALIZATION" WAS IN FULL SWING AND THAT IT WOULD NOT STOP WITH "MERELY THE MANIPULATION OF THE POLITICAL PROCESS." AMONG THE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHICH DREW DR. WILLIAMS' FIRE WAS THE INITIATIVE OF MEXICO TO INVOLVE 16 OTHER COUNTRIES IN A CARIBBEAN SHIPPING VENTURE (REFTEL). VENEZUELA BORE THE BRUNT OF WILLIAMS' CRITICISM FOR ITS INVOLVEMENT IN ALUMINUM DEALS WITH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES, IN LENDING MONEY TO THE LIAT AIRLINE, IN ADVOCATING A CONFERENCE ON CARIBBEAN INTEGRATION, AND FOR ITS ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HIS PARTY, THE PNM, HAD BEEN FORMED IN 1956 TO REMOVE COLONIALISM AND THAT IT WAS NOT NOW GOING TO BRING IT BACK IN A DIFFERENT GUISE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF THE POLITICAL SETTING OF THE SPEECH AND THE FACT THAT HIS REMARKS WERE NOT GIVEN WIDE DISTRIBUTION BY THE GOVERNMENT, DR. WILLIAMS' COMMENTS MAY BE REGARDED TO SOME EXTENT AS AN ATTEMPT TO CREATE A NEW EXTERNAL DANGER AS AN OBJECT TO ATTACK DURING THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HIS STATEMENTS DO REFLECT, HOWEVER, A REAL CONCERN ABOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF LARGER AND MORE POWERFUL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE SMALL ISLAND STATES OF THE WEST INDIES. HE NO DOUBT ALSO DOES NOT APPRECIATE THE BIG BOYS HORNING IN ON AN AREA WHERE HE IS THE SENIOR HEAD OF GOVERNMENT AND WHERE HIS COUNTRY'S OIL BONANZA HAS GIVEN IT SOME ADDITIONAL LEVERAGE IN REGIONAL COUNCILS.  
MILLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, COLONIALISM, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, JOINT VENTURES, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 17 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, ECIN, PINT, TD, XL, MX, VE, CO, BR, PEOPLES NATIONAL MOVEMENT-PNM, PNM, (WILLIAMS, ERIC)  
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